LC003728

## STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

#### IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

#### **JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2022**

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#### AN ACT

RELATING TO CRIMINALS -- CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS - LOSS OF RIGHTS BY PRISONERS

Introduced By: Senator Dawn M. Euer

Date Introduced: January 25, 2022

Referred To: Senate Judiciary

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 13-6-1 of the General Laws in Chapter 13-6 entitled "Loss of Rights

by Prisoners" is hereby repealed.

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13-6-1. Life prisoners deemed civilly dead.

4 Every person imprisoned in the adult correctional institutions for life shall, with respect to

5 all rights of property, to the bond of matrimony and to all civil rights and relations of any nature

6 whatsoever, be deemed to be dead in all respects, as if his or her natural death had taken place at

7 the time of conviction. However, the bond of matrimony shall not be dissolved, nor shall the rights

to property or other rights of the husband or wife of the imprisoned person be terminated or

9 impaired, except on the entry of a lawfully obtained decree for divorce.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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#### **EXPLANATION**

## BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

OF

### AN ACT

# RELATING TO CRIMINALS -- CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS - LOSS OF RIGHTS BY PRISONERS

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This act would repeal the provision of the general laws declaring prisoners serving a life
sentence civilly dead.

This act would take effect upon passage.